03050205-050

(Edisto River)

General Description

Watershed 03050205-050 is located in Dorchester and Colleton Counties and consists primarily of the *Edisto River* and its tributaries from Indian Field Swamp to Four Hole Swamp. The watershed occupies 10,059 acres of the Lower Coastal Plain region of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Chipley-Ogeechee-Leon-Albany-Rains series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.15 and the slope of the terrain averages 1%, with a range of 0-2%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 41.0% forested wetland (swamp), 40.3% forested land, 11.6% agricultural land, 3.7% barren land, 2.6% water, and 0.8% nonforested wetland (marsh).

As a reach of the Edisto River, this watershed accepts the drainage from all streams entering the river upstream. This section of the Edisto River also accepts drainage from Poorly Branch. There are a total of 15.0 stream miles and 8.6 acres of lake waters in this watershed, all classified FW.

Surface Water Quality

Station #	Type	Class	<u>Description</u>
E-015	P/INT	FW	EDISTO RIVER AT SC 61, AT GIVHANS FERRY STATE PARK

Edisto River – This watershed was inaccessible for monitoring purposes, so the uppermost site in watershed 03050205-060 (**E-015**) was used to represent the water quality of 03050205-050. Aquatic life uses are fully supported; however, there are significant increasing trends in turbidity and total suspended solids. There is a significant increasing trend in pH. Significant decreasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and total nitrogen concentration suggest improving conditions for these parameters. Recreational uses are fully supported.

A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes streams within this watershed (see advisory p.38).

NPDES Program

Active NPDES Facilities

There are currently no point source dischargers in this watershed.

Growth Potential

There is a low potential for growth in this watershed.